

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for composing a computer message, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message and a message format selector for selecting an output format from a plurality of formats; and

(b) in response to entry of an unformatted message into said message composition area and selection of one of said output formats, converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message with format tags of said one of said output formats.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said message formats include SGML and book manager script.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said message formats further include formatted display.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein computer instructions for steps (a) and (b) are implemented in Java script.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein said unformatted message is a first unformatted message, said formatted message is a first formatted message, said message composition area further includes a formatted display area and wherein step (a) further presents a second message composition area; further comprising:

(c) in response to entry of a second unformatted message into said second message composition area, converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message with format tags of said one of said output formats; and

(d) presenting said first and second formatted messages as a concatenated complete message for display in said formatted message display area.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

(e) editing said first and second formatted messages in said formatted message display area, if needed; and

(f) sending a copy of said formatted message to a computer message file.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said first and second composition areas and said formatted message display area are formed in a template that is presented on a web page, and wherein steps (e) and (f) are performed via said web page.

8. A method of message composition for a computer message file, said method comprising:

(a) presenting a message display area;

(b) obtaining a formatted message from said computer message file;

(c) entering said formatted message in said message display area;

(d) editing said formatted message to form a revised formatted message; and

(e) providing said revised message to said computer message file.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said message display area is formed in a template that is presented on a web page, and wherein steps (c) and (d) are performed via said web page.

10. A computer comprising:

a web page for presentation on an Intranet or an Internet;

a message creator program for the composition of computer messages, said message creator program performing the following steps:

(a) presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message and a message format selector for selecting an output format from a plurality of formats;

(b) in response to entry of an unformatted message into said message composition area and selection of one of said output formats, converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message with format tags of said one of said output formats.

11. The computer of claim 10, wherein said message formats include SGML and book manager script.

12. The computer of claim 11 wherein said message formats further include formatted display.

13. The computer of claim 12, wherein computer instructions for steps (a) and (b) are implemented in Java script.

14. The computer of claim 12, wherein said unformatted message is a first unformatted message, said formatted message is a first formatted message and said message composition area includes a formatted message display area, and wherein step (a) further presents a second message composition area, and wherein said message creator program further comprises:

(d) in response to entry of a second unformatted textual message in said second message composition area, converting said second unformatted message into said selected one of said formats to form a second formatted message; and

(e) presenting said first and second formatted messages as a concatenated complete message for display in said formatted message display area.

15. A memory media for a computer, said memory media comprising:

means for controlling said computer with a message creator program that performs the following steps:

(a) presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message and a message format selector for selecting an output format from a plurality of formats;

(b) in response to entry of said unformatted message into said message composition area and selection of one of said output formats, converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message with format tags of said one of said output formats.

16. The memory media of claim 15, wherein said message formats include SGML and book manager script.

17. The memory media of claim 16 wherein said message formats further include formatted display.

18. The memory media of claim 16, wherein computer instructions for steps (a) and (b) are implemented in Java script.

19. The memory media of claim 18, wherein said unformatted message is a first unformatted message, said formatted message is a first formatted message, said message composition area includes a formatted message display area and wherein step (a) further presents a second message composition area, and wherein said message creator program further comprises:

(c) in response to entry of a second unformatted textual message in said second message composition area, converting said second unformatted message into said selected one of said formats to form a second formatted message; and

(d) presenting said first and second formatted messages as a concatenated complete message for display in said formatted message display area.

20. A method for composing a computer message, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message, a formatted message display area and a message format selector for selecting an output format from a plurality of formats;

(b) in response to entry of an unformatted message into said message composition area and selection of one of said output formats, converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message with format tags of said one of said output formats; and

(c) presenting said formatted message for display in said formatted message display area.

21. A method for composing a computer message, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving an unformatted message from a user;

(b) selecting one output format for said message from a plurality of output formats; and

(c) converting said unformatted message to a formatted message having an output format selected in step b) and including format tags of said one of said output formats.

22. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising the added step of:

(d) displaying said formatted message for user review.

23. A memory media controlling a computer to compose a computer message, said memory media comprising:

(a) means for controlling said computer to receive an unformatted message from a user;

(b) means responsive to a user input to control said computer to select one output format for said message from a plurality of output formats; and

(c) means for controlling said computer to convert said unformatted message to a formatted message having an output format selected by means b) and including format tags of said one of said output formats.

24. The memory media as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

(d) means for controlling said computer to display said formatted message for user review.